NCO-ER EVALUATION REPORT

PREPARATION GUIDE

- 1. <u>PURPOSE</u>: To provide a simplified, easy-to-read, guide to preparing Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reports (NCO-ERs). The intent of this guide is NOT to replace the governing Regulation, AR 623-205. Rather, this guide will serve as a useful 'teaching' tool for young NCOs and officers. Users should still become familiar and comply with the provisions of AR 623-205.
- 2. <u>APPLICABILITY</u>: This guide applies to all Army NCOs, officers, and civilian personnel, as well as members of other services, who rate and senior rate Army NCOs.
- 3. <u>SUGGEST IMPROVEMENTS</u>: This is a one-time only publication and will be distributed electronically. Users may change it to meet the needs of their own installations/units and publish locally if desired. Hardcopies will not be distributed by DA PERSCOM.

4. <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>:

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Roles for Rating Chain

CHAPTER I - PERFORMANCE COUNSELING

PERFORMANCE COUNSELING

To stimulate leadership development, increase competence, teach and reinforce Army values and Standards

- 1. Face-to-face performance counseling between the rater and the rated NCO is accomplished in order to improve performance and professionally develop the rated NCO. It is the process by which the rater develops and communicates performance standards at the beginning of the rating period (within the first 30 days) and discusses progress toward meeting these standards at least quarterly during the rating period. The goal is to get all NCOs to be successful and meet standards.
- a. The best counseling is always looking forward. It does not dwell on the past and what 'was' done, but rather on the future and what 'can' be done better.
- b. Counseling at the end of the rating period is too late since it does not provide sufficient time for the rated NCO to make improvements prior to the evaluation.
- 2. It is important to note that counseling is 'mandatory' for all NCOs. It is not an option and rating officials should take every advantage of this useful tool for providing feedback to the rated NCO on where he stands. This precludes any surprises when it is time for the actual evaluation report. If proper counseling is being done, a rated NCO should never be alarmed if he/she receives a report that highlights shortcomings or failures.

COUNSELING CHECKLIST "Has information needed to counsel"

- 1. The NCO Counseling Checklist/Record is designed for use with the NCO-ER as a sole source counseling support document. It contains key and essential information to prepare for and conduct a counseling session. It also provides a place to record the results. Use of the NCO Counseling Checklist is required for all NCOs.
 - a. The rater keeps one checklist for each rated NCO until after the end of the rating period.

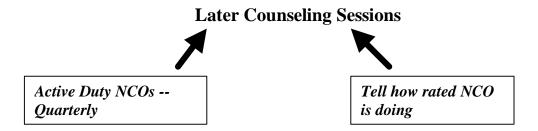
How to plan and conduct performance counseling using the Counseling Checklist/Record (DA Form 2166-8-1)

COUNSELING CHECKLIST/RECORD – PAGES 1 & 2

Step-by-step checklists for rater on "How To" plan for and conduct:



Rater shows the rated NCO the rating chain and a complete duty description, discusses the meaning of the values and responsibilities contained on the NCO-ER, explains the standards for success, records key points discussed and obtains the rated NCO's initials.



Rater updates the duty description and discusses what was done well and what could be done better based on observed action, demonstrated behavior and results. Rater records key points discussed and obtains the rated NCO's initials.

A copy of the NCO Counseling Record follows. Read and study it thoroughly in order to gain a full understanding of how to maximize its use.

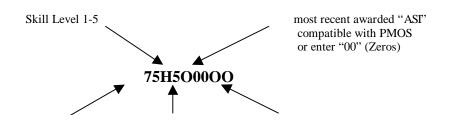
CHAPTER II - PREPARING A NCO-ER

PART I - ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

+ NCO EVALUATION REPORT For use of this form, see AR 623-205; the proponent agency is DCSPER				SEE PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT IN AR 623-205, APPENDIX E. +		
a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial) ELWAY, JOHN D.	b. SS	SIN 222-33-0000	c. RANK SSG	d. DATE OF RANK 010901	e. PMOS 75H3P0	-
f. UNIT, ORG., STATION, ZIP CODE OR APO, MAJOR COMM/ HHC, 3d Battalion, 19 th Infantry, Fort Stewart, GA 31313	AND	FORSCOM		g. REASON FOR SUBMISSION 02 ANNUAL		N
h. PERIOD COVERED i. RATED j. NON- FROM THRU MONTHS RATED CODES	k. NO. OF ENCL	RATED NCO COPY Given to NCO	(Check one and Date)	m. PSC Initials	n. CMD CODE	o. PSC CODE
01 12 02 11 12		2. Forwarded to NCC)		J1	EU38

Item

- a. <u>NAME</u>: Enter Last name, first, MI (capital letters are preferred but Upper/Lower are acceptable)
- b. SSN (with dashes)
- c. <u>RANK</u> (capital letters). Enter the three-letter abbreviation for the NCO's military rank, not pay grade (e.g., SSG, SFC, MSG, SGM). The administrative data on the NCO-ER of NCOs frocked to 1SG, SGM, or CSM will reflect the rank, date of rank, and primary MOSC held prior to the frocking action. However, in addition to the NCO's rank in Part 1c, enter the appropriate frocked rank in parenthesis immediately following the rank entry. The entries are SFC (1SG), MSG (SGM), or MSG(CSM).
- d. <u>DATE OF RANK</u>: Enter the six-digit date of rank in the year-month-day (yymmdd) sequence (e.g., 990802).
- e. <u>PMOSC</u>: Enter PMOS Code in 5, 7 or 9 digits. A 9-digit PMOS Code would be entered as follows:



g. <u>REASON FOR SUBMISSION</u>: Enter the appropriate report code in the left-hand portion of the block and the type of the report title in the right-hand portion of the block (e.g. 2 = Annual, 3 = Change of Rater, 4 = Complete the Record, 5 = Relief for Cause, 7 = 60-Day Rater Option, 8 = Senior Rater Option. Whenever a soldier departs for an undetermined period of time, and it is unsure whether or not the period will exceed 90 days, complete a change of rater report.

<u>NOTE</u>: The '60-Day Rater Option' and the 'Senior Rater Option' NCO-ERs are newly authorized in AR 623-205. Specific guidance pertaining to when these reports may be submitted is outlined in the governing regulation. Refer to chapter 3, paragraphs 3-32 and 3-33. Also, note the rule changes for 'Complete the Record' reports in paragraph 3-31.

h. <u>FROM Date</u>. Enter the beginning date in the boxes, using two-digit numerical identifiers for year and month. The beginning month is always the month following the ending month of the last report, except for reports rendered in the following situations: An NCO's first report period begins on the effective date or promotion to Sergeant, reversion to NCO status after serving as a commissioned or warrant officer for 12 months or more, or reentry on active duty after a break in service of 12 months or more, or the date of the ABCMR memo which approves reinstatement of a promotion. *IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF THE ENDING DATE OF THE RATED SOLDIER'S LAST REPORT, CALL YOUR NCO-ER EVALUATIONS SECTION OR THE EREC INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE SYSTEM AT DSN 221-3732.*

THRU DATE: Enter the ending date, using two-digit numerical identifiers for year and month.

i. & j. <u>RATED MONTHS AND NONRATED CODES</u>: Determine the beginning month, which is always the month following the ending month of the last report (except for an NCO's first report). Identify the ending month, which is the month of the event that generates the report regardless of when the event occurs during that month. Total the months. Compute nonrated months as follows: (1) determine the total days in the report period during which the NCO was in a nonrated status, i.e.

A - AWOL/Desertion B - break in active enlisted service of 12 months or less

C - in confinement D -TDRL

I - in transit between duty stations, including leave & temporary duty

M - missing in action P - patient

Q - lack of rater qualification S - student at a military service or civilian school

Convert the total nonrated days to nonrated months, (e.g., 15 days or less = 0 nonrated months, 16

- k. <u>ENCL</u>. Enter the number of authorized enclosures, if any, that are being attached and forwarded with the completed NCO-ER. There are only three authorized enclosures to an NCO-ER. They are:
 - 1) reviewer's letter of nonconcurrence
 - 2) letter directing a relief for cause initiated by other than the rater or senior rater; or
 - 3) letter authorizing a relief for cause for a period of less than 30 days.
- 1 & m. <u>LEAVE BLANK</u>. MPD or servicing PSC will complete this block.
- n & o CMD and PSC Codes. Enter the appropriate codes for your installation.

PART II – AUTHENTICATION

PART II - AUTHENTICATION			
a. NAME OF RATER (Last, First, Middle Initial)	SSN	SIGNATURE	
DANGER, ROY E.	000-11-2222		
RANK, PMOSC/BRANCH, ORGANIZATION, DUTY ASSIGNA		DATE	
SFC, 75H4O, HHC, 3d Battalion, 19 th Infantry, Fort Stewart, GA 31313 PAC Supervisor b. NAME OF SENIOR RATER (Last, First, Middle Initial). SSN SIGNATURE			
b. NAME OF SENIOR RATER (Last, First, Middle Initial)	SSN	SIGNATURE	
VICE, CLARA T.	333-44-6789		
RANK, PMOSC/BRANCH, ORGANIZATION, DUTY ASSIGNMENT DATE			
CPT, SC, HQs 3d Battalion, 19 th Infantry, Fort Stewart, GA 31313 Battalion Adjutant			
C. RATED NCO: I understand my signature does not constitute agreement or disagreement with the evaluations of the rater and senior rater. Part I, height/weight and APFT entries are verified. I			DATE
have seen this report completed through Part V. I am aware of the appeals process			
d. NAME OF REVIEWER (Last, First, Middle Initial)	SSN	SIGNATURE	1
PEACE, OTTO P.	444-55-9876		
RANK, PMOSC/BRANCH, ORGANIZATION, DUTY ASSIGNA	MENT		DATE
MAJ, IN, HQs, 3d Battalion, 19th Infantry, Fort Stewart, GA	31313 Batta	lion Executive Officer	
e. CONCUR WITH RATER AND SENIOR RATER EVALUATIONS	UR	WITH RATER AND/OR SENIOR RATER EVAL (See	attached comments)

Parts II a, b, d: Enter the rater's, senior rater's, and reviewer's identification. See examples above. The rank portion of each section will contain the appropriate three letter rank abbreviation unless the official is a promotable MSG occupying a SGM position and acting as a reviewer, in which case enter MSG(P). For rating officials who are not U.S. Army officers/NCO, in addition to rank, enter their pay grade and branch of service. For example, a U.S. Navy CDR would be entered as CDR/05, USN; a USMC Gunnery Sergeant would be entered as GYSGT/E7, USMC. When a frocked NCO renders an NCO-ER as the rater, senior rater, or reviewer, enter the three letter frocked rank (1SG. SGM. or CSM) in the applicable block. A civil service official would be entered as GS- or

- The Senior rater obtains the rated NCOs signature.
- The reviewer is responsible for rating safeguard and overwatch. If the reviewer determines that the rater and/or senior rater have not evaluated the rated NCO in a clear, consistent or just manner, the reviewer will consult with one or both rating officials to determine the basis for the apparent discrepancy. If the NCO-ER is subsequently revised to the point that the reviewer no longer disagrees with the evaluation, then the reviewer marks the concur box. If the rater and/or senior rater do not acknowledge a discrepancy and indicate the evaluation is their honest opinion, the reviewer marks nonconcur box and adds an enclosure that clarifies the situation and renders his or her opinion as to the proper manner of performance and potential. The reviewer will not direct that the rater and/or senior rater change an evaluation believed to be honest. Selection boards continue to comment on the importance of the reviewer's role in addressing rating conflicts.
- There are still far too many instances where rated NCOs refuse to sign a report because he/she disagrees with the evaluation. Rating officials must ensure that rated NCOs are familiar with what his/her signature means. Simply stated, the NCO's signature on the report indicates that
 - 1) the NCO has seen the completed report (except parts IId and e)
 - 2) the administrative data is correct (except parts Ik-o.)
 - 3) the rating officials are proper
 - 4) NCO is aware of appeals process
 - 5) duty description and counseling dates are accurate
 - 6) APFT and height/weight entries are correct.

The rated NCO's signature does <u>NOT</u> constitute agreement or disagreement with the evaluations of the rater or senior rater.

PART III - DUTY DESCRIPTION

PART III - DUTY DESCRIPTION(Rater)			
a. PRINCIPAL DUTY TITLE ENTER PRINCIPAL DUTY TITLE	b. DUTY MOSC ENTER DMOS		

c. DAILY DUTIES AND SCOPE(To include, as appropriate, people, equipment, facilities and dollars)

This portion should provide an accurate description of the NCO's scope of duties with regards to mission, personnel supervised, equipment and resources handled, and personnel supervised; do not use acronyms that are not commonly understood/recognized across the Army; duty description should be as thorough as possible with the limited space available; separate phrases within the duty description with a semi-colon (;) and use a period (.) at the end of the duty description

- a <u>PRINCIPAL DUTY TITLE</u>: Enter principal duty title based on duty appointment memorandum.
- b. <u>DUTY MOSC</u>: Enter DMOS. Five character minimum. Seven if an ASI is required, and nine if a language code is required.
- c. <u>DAILY DUTIES AND SCOPE</u>. The duty description should be short and structured to highlight what's important and omit excess verbage. It should provide an accurate description of the NCO's scope of responsibilities, i.e. number of people supervised, amount of equipment and resources managed or handled (include dollars, if known). Leadership positions, such as Platoon Sergeant, should be clearly stated on the appointed duties block.
- d. <u>AREAS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS</u>. Areas of special emphasis should be identified during the first counseling session. This area serves to emphasize those items that need to receive top priority effort at least during the first part of the rating period. This is another way of letting the rated NCO know what is expected. At the end of the rating period when it is time to fill out the form, this area should include, and therefore highlight to anyone that reads it, the most important items that applied any time during the rating period. Examples are: Preparation for SFOR deployment, inspection of warehouse, SIDPERS acceptance rate, develop new computer software for operations section, plan and implement new NCODP. NOTE: When a rated NCO makes a contribution in one or more areas of special emphasis during the rating period, the rater and/or senior rater should make a comment in Part V. DO NOT CLUTTER THIS BLOCK WITH LONG SENTENCES.
- e. <u>APPOINTED DUTIES</u>: Appointed duties represent significant additional demands upon the NCO's time. Thus, they are duties which are not normally associated with the duty position, such as appointment as Reenlistment NCO, Equal Opportunity Leader, Master Fitness Trainer. When an NCO makes a contribution in one or more appointed duties during the rating period, the rater and/or senior rater should make a comment in Park V.
- f. <u>COUNSELING DATES</u>. The initial and later counseling dates are supplied by the rater from the Counseling Checklist/Record. *If counseling was not accomplished during the rating period, dates will be omitted and the Senior Rater must enter a statement in Part Ve explaining why the counseling was not accomplished.*

PART IVa - VALUES/NCO RESPONSIBILITIES

		PART IV - ARMY VALUES/ATTRIBUTES/SKILLS/ACTIONS (Rater)		
a. ARMY VALUES.	Check either "YES" or "NO". (C	Comments are mandatory for "No" entries; optional for "Yes"		
A R	_	1. LOYALTY: Bears true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, the unit, and other soldiers.	Yes	Yes X X X
	Loyalty	2. DUTY: Fulfills their obligations.	X	
	Duty Respect	3. RESPECT/EO/EEO: . Treats people as they should be treated.	X	
	Selfless-Service	4. SELFLESS-SERVICE: Puts the welfare of the nation, the Army, and subordinates before their own.	х	
		5. HONOR: Lives up to all the Army values.	Х	

IVa Values are what soldiers, as a profession, judge to be right. They are the moral, ethical and professional attributes of character. They are the heart and soul of a great Army. The rater will answer each question by placing (handwritten or typed) an "X" in either the YES or NO box. Bullet comments are used to explain any area where the rated NCO is particularly strong or needs improvement. Bullet comments are mandatory for NO ratings and must give a clear description of why the value/responsibility was rated "NO." **Example**: "soldier received two DUIs during rating period" instead of "soldier's conduct was unbecoming".

IVb-f VALUES/NCO RESPONSIBILITIES. On the left, each responsibility is listed and highlighted by trigger words. For each responsibility, the rater places an 'X' (may be handwritten or typewritten) in one of the four boxes based on the following criteria:

- **EXCELLENCE**: Exceeds standards; demonstrated by specific example(s) and measurable results; special and unusual, achieved by only a few; clearly better than most others. Examples:
 - o received Physical Fitness Badge
 - o qualified entire squad as expert with M-16 and M-60
 - o awarded the expert Infantryman Badge (EIB)
- **SUCCESS**: Meets all standards; majority of ratings; fully competitive for schooling and promotion; counseling goal to bring all NCOs to this level. Examples:
 - o shares experiences readily, constantly teaching soldiers
 - o constantly seeking to improve, completed three subcourses during rating period
 - o coached and played on company softball team
 - o established a comprehensive cross training program for his section
 - o his platoon had only one tank on deadline report (for 10 days) during last 11 months
- **NEEDS IMPROVEMENT**: Missed meeting some standard. Examples:
 - o was often unaware of whereabouts of subordinates
 - o had the highest deadline rate in the company due to apathy
 - o lacks the endurance/stamina to complete company runs
 - o unprepared to conduct formal training on three occasions
 - o failed to meet APFT standards for the two mile run and sit-uns with a total score of

RATED NCO'S NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)	SSN	THRU DATE		
+ SAMPLE, JOHN R.	123-45-6789	0211	+	
PART IV (Rater) - VALUES/NCO RESPONSIBILITIES	Specific Bullet examples of "EXCELLENCE" or "NEE Specific Bullet examples of "SUCCESS" are optional	DS IMPROVEMENT" are mandatory.		
b. COMPETENCE o Duty proficiency: MOS competency o Technical & tactical; knowledge, skills, and abilities o Sound judgment	o second line of a bullet may sta letter of the first line as long as	art under the "o" or they are consistent		_
o Seeking self-improvement; always learning o Accomplishing tasks to the fullest capacity; committed to excellence EXCELLENCE SUCCESS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Exceeds std) (Meets std) (Some) (Much)	o bullet comments to support "Excellence" ratings are mandatory - must be substantiated by specific examples and measurable results			
	o bullet comments for "Needs I and must be specific, i.e. what h	mprovement" rating appened, what was HEIGHT/WEIGHT	gs are mandator the deficiency 63/132 YES	r <u>y</u>
 Mental and physical toughness Endurance and stamina to go the distance Displaying confidence and enthusiasm; looks like a soldier 	o the bullet "IAW standards of when "YES" is entered in Heigh	AR 600-9" is no lo t/Weight Block		l
EXCELLENCE SUCCESS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Some) (Much)	o excellence ratings based solel "received the Physical Fitness B	y on the APFT only adge	y require the bu	ıllet
d. LEADERSHIP o Mission first	o double space between bullets	and no more than t	wo lines per bu	llet
o Genuine concern for soldiers o Instilling the spirit to achieve and win o Setting the example; Be, Know, Do	o bullets may begin with a capit or without a period, but be cons	al or lower case le istent throughout th	tter and end wit ie NCO-ER	th
EXCELLENCE SUCCESS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Exceeds std) (Meets std) (Some) (Much)	o a specific bullet can only be u block it fits best			
TRAINING Individual and team Mission focused; performance oriented Teaching soldiers how; common tasks, duty-related skills	o the first bullet in each rating sthat justifies the excellence	should be the strong	gest and the bul	let
duty-related skills o Sharing knowledge and experience to fight, survive and win	o best bullets start with action v	verbs or possessive	pronoun (his/he	er)
EXCELLENCE SUCCESS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Exceeds std) (Meets std) (Some) (Much)	o avoid using NCO's name or t			llets
f. RESPONSIBILITY & ACCOUNTABILITY o Care and maintenance of equip./facilities o Soldier and equipment safety o Conservation of supplies and funds o Encouraging soldiers to learn and grow	o handwritten comments, under capital letters cannot be used in			
o Encouraging soldiers to learn and grow o Responsible for good, bad, right & wrong	o NCOs receiving all success rathe best or 'fully capable'	atings may receive	a rating of 'amo	ong
EXCELLENCE SUCCESS NEEDS IMPROVEMENT (Exceeds std) (Meets std) (Some) (Much)	o NCOs receiving one or more IVb-f cannot receive a rating of	'needs improvemen 'among the best'	nt' ratings in pa	rt

IVb-f <u>BULLET GUIDANCE</u>: Specific bullet examples are mandatory for excellence or needs improvement ratings. Comments must be entered in "bullet" narrative format adhering to the following rules:

o short, concise, to the point

- It does not matter whether there is one space or no space after the small 'o'; whether you start the bullet with a capital letter, use a period at the end of the bullet, or start a second line under the bullet or under the first letter of the first line as long as all bullets are consistent throughout the NCO-ER.
 - o a specific bullet can be used only once (decide which responsibility the bullet fits best) o bullets that relate directly to the NCO's abilities, responsibilities, or reflect something specific that he or she did, convey a very clear picture to selection boards they tell a story. Generic bullets (comments that could apply to almost all NCOs) do have value as they show the NCO's adherence to Army values, however, they should be used along with personalized bullets to give a complete picture.
 - o do not use exclamation points, excessive capitalization, underlining, or italics in bullet comments.
 - o using the abbreviation "etc." is not acceptable in a bullet comment.
 - o when using Code and Exercise Names, specify the exercise and communicate what the rated NCO did to make him or her invaluable.
 - o excellence bullets should be clearly articulated as something above the ordinary, something quantifiable, and accomplished during the rating period. Measure the accomplishment against a quantifiable or qualitative standard.
- Bullet comments are optional when success ratings are given. This was designed to stress that success ratings mean the NCO meets the standards. The best success bullets identify what the rated NCO did during the rating period and deal with specifics related to the NCO's duties and responsibilities. Good NCOs deserve to have their permanent file reflect what they accomplished. Reports with five success box checks and no bullet comments from the rater are hard to interpret by boards. The question arises as to whether the NCO really meets the standards or if the NCO is borderline between success and needs improvement. This makes it difficult for board members and personnel managers to get a true picture of the NCO. Raters should consider the potential effect of submitting an NCO-ER with no bullets or a success box check with a negative bullet. Ensure that the rating you want to portray is easily understood.
 - o When writing bullets to support 'Needs Improvement' ratings, the bullets should tell what happened, what the deficiency was, what went wrong. Generic bullets used to support 'Needs Improvement' ratings often look like the rater had a deficiency in communicating with the NCO and it's often hard to determine the problem.
 - o Enclosure 1 contains examples of bullets extracted from NCO-ER Updates for "excellence", "success", and "needs improvement" ratings. Review these bullets and take note of the excellence bullet comments which contain specific and measurable results.

IVc. APFT Data.

o Enter one of the following APFT entries: "PASS" or "FAIL" and the year and month of the APFT results, or "PROFILE" and year and month the profile was awarded. **Example**: PASS 0109. These entries will reflect the NCO's status on the date of the most recent APFT administered by the unit within the 12-month period prior to the last rated day of supervision. If the date is older, EREC will need a memorandum stating that this is the most current information available. Entries for APFT and Height/Weight are verified by the Rater.

- See Enclosure 2 for detailed explanation on APFT and Profile entries.
- Excellent ratings based solely on the APFT only require the bullet "Received the Physical Fitness Badge." (Physical Fitness Badge is awarded to soldiers attaining a minimum of 90 points in each event). Rating of "Needs Improvement" must reflect actual APFT score.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

• Reference cannot be made to the following in Part IV, V or in any NCO-ER Enclosure:

Allegation
 Letter of Reprimand
 Court martial
 Anything pending
 Letter of admonishment
 Flagged
 Civil Trial

- Reenlistment or letter of declination (same as bar)

• Reference can be made to the following in Part IV, V or any NCO-ER Enclosure:

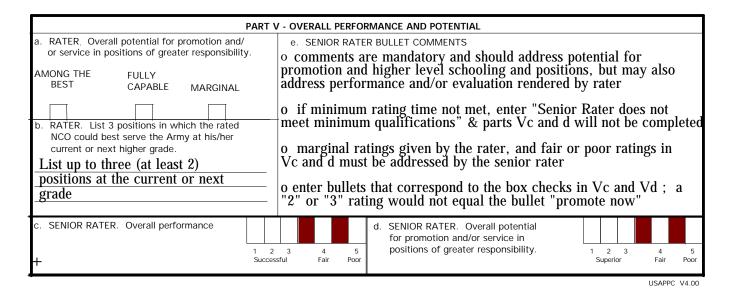
Cited for or received a DUI
 Tested positive on urinalysis
 Criminal incident
 AWOL
 Apprehended
 Incarcerated
 Desertion

- Dropped from the rolls

- Violated AR 600-20 (fraternization or similar regulatory noncompliance)

- Senior rater may recommend/request discharge, separation or QMP

PART V - OVERALL PERFORMANCE AND POTENTIAL



Va The rater marks a box to indicate the rated NCO's overall potential as follows:

- Among the best NCOs who have demonstrated success and/or excellence; a very good, solid performance and a strong recommendation for promotion and/or service in positions of greater responsibility.
- Fully Capable NCOs who have demonstrated success; a good performance, and should sufficient slots be available, a promotion recommendation.
- Marginal NCOs who need improvement in one or more areas; do not promote at this time
- POSITIONS THE RATED NCO COULD BEST SERVE THE ARMY. The rater lists up to three (at least two) different future duty positions in which the rated NCO could best serve the Army at **the current or next higher grade**. Therefore, do not recommend a SSG serve as a 1SG or a SGT serve in a position normally identified for junior personnel. Also, a SSG who receives a marginal rating based on poor leadership skills should not be recommended to serve in a higher leadership position; however, the same SSG may have outstanding technical skills and might be recommended for a higher position in the technical

Parts Vc&d – The senior rater marks a block to indicate the rated NCO's overall performance/ potential as follows:

- Successful/Superior a '1' or '2' rating represents a very good, solid performance and is a strong recommendation for promotion; however, a '2' rating is not as good as a '1'. A '3' rating also represents a good performance, and should sufficient slots be available, a promotion recommendation – but however, it is not as good as a '2'.
- **Fair** A '4' rating represents NCOs who may require additional training/observation and should not be promoted at this time.
- **Poor** A '5' rating represents NCOs who are weak or deficient and, in the opinion of the senior rater, need significant improvement or training in one or more areas. Do not promote.
- Ve **SENIOR RATER BULLET COMMENTS**: Senior rater bullet comments are mandatory and should focus on potential for promotion, higher level schooling and positions of greater responsibility, but may also address performance, and/or the evaluation rendered by the rater. Senior rater bullet comments must be clear, concise and should reflect the senior rater's recommendation to promote the NCO "now", "ahead of" or "with peers", or to "not promote." General terms such as "prime candidate for promotion" or "ready for promotion" often leave the panel members to decipher what is meant. A bullet comment, "consider for promotion" leaves the impression that the soldier has only mediocre backing for promotion. Marginal ratings given by the rater and fair, or poor ratings in Part V must be addressed by the Senior Rater. It is important to enter bullets that correspond to the box checks in Vc. and d. Entering a '1' rating for potential but failing to address potential in bullets or entering weak potential bullets may degrade the value of the box check. Likewise, a '4' or '5' box check that is not addressed as a deficiency in the bullets sends a confusing signal on the value of the box check. Sometimes, the senior rater would mark a '2' or '3' block and the written bullets would be "promote now", or "promote immediately". Panel members do not know what the intent is for giving this type of rating. Failure to address potential can send a strong, often unintended, message to a selection board member, e.g., 'No bullets must mean this NCO has marginal potential'. A lack of comments on promotion potential may be interpreted as "keep in the same grade." The same bullet narrative rules apply here except the senior rater is not restricted to the use of examples like the rater is in Part IVb-f.

CHAPTER III RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIPS FOR RATING OFFICIALS

1. Roles for rating officials:

Rater: The rater's primary role is that of evaluation, focusing on performance and performance counseling. Rater will:

- a. Counsel the rated NCO on his or her duty performance and professional development at least quarterly throughout the rating period. Define and discuss the duty description for part III of the NCO-ER with the rated NCO during these sessions.
- b. Prepare a separate DA Form 2166-8-1 for each rated NCO. The form will be used together with a working copy of the NCO-ER for conducting quarterly performance counseling.
- c. Assess the performance of the rated NCO using all reasonable means.
- d. Prepare a fair and accurate report evaluating the NCO's duty performance, values/NCO responsibilities, and potential.

Senior rater: The senior rater's role is primarily that of evaluation, focusing on potential, overwatching the performance evaluation, and mentoring. Senior rater will:

- a. Use all reasonable means to become familiar with the rated NCO's performance throughout the rating period. This includes a periodic review of the counseling checklist to ensure initial and quarterly counseling is being accomplished.
- b. Prepare a fair, accurate report evaluating the NCO's duty performance, professionalism, and potential.
- c. Obtain the rated NCO's signature in part II of the NCO-ER. Ensure the rated NCO is aware that his or her signature does not constitute agreement or disagreement with the evaluations of the rater and senior rater.

Reviewer: The reviewer is responsible for providing rating safeguard and overwatch. He or she may comment *only when in disagreement with the rater and/or senior rater*. He or she will:

2. Tips for Rating Officials:

RATER

- The best advice to all NCOs and officers who rate NCOs is *get a copy of the Counseling Checklist/Record*, *read it*, *use it*, *keep it*.
- Before counseling, a little extra time spent writing or reviewing the duty description will pay off. If you have a hard time understanding it, then you know the rated NCO will have trouble, so keep it simple.
- The hardest part of counseling is setting standards for your subordinates. For help, start with the *examples of standards* in the checklist. You can use them as they are or adjust them to fit your situation.
- When you counsel, spend most of your time talking to the future, what should be done, or what should be done better. Don't dwell on the past. Don't forget to get the rated NCO's ideas then listen.

WHEN YOU RATE:

- Follow the rules for bullet comments. Reports that don't follow the rules will be returned.
- A 'NO' in Part IVa of the NCO-ER is serious since all NCOs are expected to adhere to the values. Don't use a 'NO' as an attention-getter. When you put a 'NO' on an NCO-ER mean it and give a clear description of why the value/responsibility was rated 'NO'.
- Excellence ratings should be clearly articulated as something above the ordinary, something quantifiable, and accomplished during that rating period. Measure the accomplishment against a quantifiable or qualitative standard. The bullet used to justify the excellence should be up front (the first bullet in the block).
- If a soldier's conduct warrants an Article 15 or Memorandum of Reprimand, clearly he/she should not receive a rating of "among the best" by the rater or '1/1' by the senior rater.
- A rated NCO with all success ratings in Part IV *can* be rated "among the best" in part Va.

SENIOR RATER

- The better you know the rated NCO, the better you will do your duty as Senior Rater.
- Check early to see that the rater is counseling and has a checklist for each rated NCO. This will be a matter of command and increation interest, don't get council the art.

Example potential bullets sought out by board members:

- promote now/immediately
- promote to SFC with/ahead of peers
- promote if room
- do not promote
- send to ANCOC now

NOTE: Board members tend to view "now" as a stronger statement of potential than "promote ahead of peers."

- Read carefully the definitions for box Xs. Either a '1' or a '2' represents a good performance by the NCO and a strong recommendation for promotion.
- Senior rater will address the rater's evaluation of Marginal potential. This is meant to force a dialog between these two raters. The Senior Rater will place one bullet that indicates agreement or disagreement with the Marginal Rating. If the Senior Rater agrees, a bullet is necessary that identifies the ratee's shortcoming. **Example**: his lack of training skills is responsible for his tank to fail three times to qualify
- Failure to address potential can send a strong, often unintended, message to a selection board member, e.g., *no bullets must mean this NCO has marginal potential*. A lack of comments on promotion potential may be interpreted as *keep in the same grade*.
- IAW AR 623-205, the Senior Rater obtains the rated NCO's signature on the NCO-ER.

REVIEWER

- Consider yourself in charge. It is your responsibility to see that the evaluation on the NCO-ER
 is accurate, fair and serves the best interests of the Army. Feedback from the NCO Corps
 indicated a strong desire to have a reviewer to overwatch the evaluation process don't lose the
 trust.
- Step in as soon as you see something going wrong, try to correct problem with rater and senior rater before report is processed. You can't force them to change an honest evaluation, but often discussion will resolve the issue.
- When you are unable to resolve the problem, express your nonconcurrence with an enclosure. *Only* use an enclosure when you have *a significant disagreement*. Selection boards do not want a third agreement that wastes everybody's time; (EREC will reject unauthorized enclosure).
- Remember to check to see that performance counseling is happening. Good counseling will result in better performance, is essential to leader development, and therefore is a subject of command and inspection interest.

CHAPTER IV - ELECTRONIC FORMS

- 1. NCO-ER's produced and submitted on electronically generated forms must meet the following criteria:
- a. The electronically generated form must be a mirror image of the printed DA Form 2166-8. When held up to a light with an original DA Form the boxes must be the same size and all the form's lettering and lines must be as near as a match as possible. Forms that do not essentially look like the original will be returned.
- b. Good quality paper must be used (8.5 x 11, not A4). NCO-ERs submitted for processing on poor quality and tissue thin paper will be returned, as they do not scan onto the OMPF well.
- 2. Electronic evaluation reports must be printed on one sheet of paper, front and back, head to foot. The electronically produced NCO-ER does not have to be on two pages of continuous feed paper. Since the output of graphics based applications can vary depending on PC and printer configurations, it is essential that each electronically generated evaluation be visually checked prior to submission to ensure the printed output is a precise facsimile of the paper form.
- 3. The NCO-ER is the most important document in a NCO's OMPF. Prepare it with the same level of administrative diligence as an award certificate or DD 214. To preclude any conflict whatsoever regarding the form, it must be a mirror image of the original form.

CHAPTER V - EVALUATION REPORT APPEALS SYSTEM

Have you ever heard any of the following statements?!?

"Appealing your NCO-ER is the last thing you want to do; it only brings unwanted, additional attention to your records when they go before the centralized promotion board."

"It's best to rely on the good portion of your record to overshadow the incorrect or negative NCO-ER."

"The promotion board doesn't even look at NCO-ERs over five years old."

"It doesn't matter if the height and weight entries fluctuate, you've never been overweight."

If some of those statements or bits of "advice" sound familiar, please read on.

The Army created the appeals system to protect its interests and to assist soldiers in resolving possible errors on their evaluation reports. (Army Regulation 623-205 is the current regulatory guidance and is the regulation referred to throughout this article unless otherwise specifically stated. AR 623-205 applies to all noncommissioned officers in the Active Army, Army National Guard, and the U.S. Army Reserve.) Although any person may appeal an evaluation he or she believes is incorrect, inaccurate or violates the intent of the governing regulation, it is normally the rated soldier who submits an appeal. Unfortunately, soldiers often perform this task without seeking the proper guidance, thus jeopardizing their chances for a successful appeal. In the Total Army, several hundred-thousand evaluation reports are written and processed each year. Historically, the vast majority of those who render reports discharge this important responsibility with due care and consideration. Most reports accurately record performance and potential of the rated NCO. Many leaders and various agencies typically review these reports for format, content, and regulatory compliance before forwarding them to the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center (EREC) in Indianapolis, IN. When received, the report becomes a matter of permanent record on the soldier's Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).

For a myriad of reasons, however, some rating officials occasionally do not write soldiers' evaluation reports as accurately and objectively as intended by the governing regulation. HQDA uses NCO-ERs and Academic Evaluation Reports (AERs) extensively for making personnel management decisions as well as selection for promotion and schooling. It is imperative that soldiers' records be as accurate as possible considering the competitiveness and across-the-board high quality of today's NCO corps.

When a senior enlisted selection board convenes for SFC, MSG or SGM/CSM, EREC provides the board members with a personnel data sheet containing summary information from the NCO's last five evaluations. EREC also provides the board members with the complete performance,

Deciding to Appeal.

If an NCO receives an evaluation report he or she believes is an inaccurate or unjust evaluation of performance and potential, contains administrative errors or was not rendered in accordance with the Army regulation(s) in effect at the time of preparation, he/she may appeal that report. Once EREC reviews, processes and files a report on the OMPF, it is considered to be administratively correct and an accurate portrayal of performance and potential; therefore, the rated NCO should ensure the evaluation is reviewed carefully before signing. When signing the report, the rated NCO verifies he or she has seen the completed report (through Part V); that the administrative data (Part I) is correct; the rating officials are proper (Part II); the duty description is accurate (Part III), to include the counseling dates, and the APFT and height/weight entries are correct (Part IVc). Appeals based on administrative errors in these portions, previously verified by the soldier's signature, will be accepted only under the most compelling circumstances.

In deciding to appeal, an NCO must consider early on whether he or she can gather sufficient evidence in support of the appeal. A self-authored statement alone does not suffice as evidence of an inaccurate, unjust or administratively flawed report. A report accepted by EREC is presumed to be correct until proven otherwise! Therefore, successfully challenging the judgment of rating officials is difficult. Take time when gathering evidence; a haphazardly created appeal wastes valuable time by having to start the process over each time the packet is returned for additional documentation. The rated NCO has several options to address alleged shortcomings on his or her evaluation. These *three* forms of redress are discussed next.

Three Forms of Redress

The three forms of redress are the *commander's inquiry*, the *submission of an appeal*, and the *Army Board for Correction of Military Records* (ABCMR).

The Commander's Inquiry

The first form of redress is the commander's inquiry. While the primary purpose of a commander's inquiry is to provide a greater degree of command involvement in preventing obvious injustices to the rated NCO, and to correct errors before the evaluation becomes a matter of permanent record; after an evaluation becomes a matter of permanent record, the commander's inquiry still provides a mechanism to clarify errors or injustices. Paragraph 2-15 of the regulation outlines the procedures for initiation, conduct and disposition of the commander's inquiry. The inquiry must be made by a commander (major or above) in the chain of command above all the designated rating officials involved in the allegation(s). This commander may also appoint an officer, senior to the designated

The commander's inquiry secures a review of the alleged shortcoming(s) by someone above the rating chain officials involved in the allegation(s). It is not merely to receive a "relook" by one of the rating officials. Action to be taken can vary from a recommendation for correction of the evaluation locally (if the report has not been forwarded to EREC), to forwarding the results to HQDA for reports already submitted to EREC.

Results of an inquiry performed after a report becomes a permanent record on the NCO's OMPF must be forwarded to HQDA, (Evaluations Systems Office), not later than 120 days after the "THRU" date of the report. The regulation forbids rating officials from lowering their evaluation as a result of the inquiry.

Submitting an Appeal

The second form of redress is submitting an appeal. The NCO should begin preparation of an appeal as soon as possible after receiving an evaluation considered unjust, unfair or administratively incorrect. Timeliness is crucial for requesting and obtaining needed supporting documents and third party supporting statements. As soldiers who could potentially provide supporting statements change duty stations, and/or separate from the Army, their recollection of specific incidents may become *distorted* or less accurate. As time passes, key documents such as rating schemes, command inspection results, etc., become less available. For these reasons, soldiers should initiate their appeals as soon as possible.

By current regulation, the appellant has five years from the evaluation's completion date to submit an appeal of a substantive nature. Administrative appeals will be considered regardless of the period of the report. Appeals of an administrative nature pertain to Part I, Part II, and Parts IIIa and IIIb only. All other appeals are substantive in nature. Chapter 4, Appendix F, and Figures F-1 through F-6 provide specific guidance for preparation and submission of an appeal. This guidance will answer all but the most technical questions regarding a potential appeal. The soldier does not have to interpret the governing regulation and submit his appeal without guidance. Appendix F states the personnel staff noncommissioned officer (PSNCO) in the S-1 (PAC), the personnel service battalion (PSB), and the local staff judge advocate (SJA) are available to advise and provide assistance in the preparation of an appeal.

Bear in mind: Statements by rating officials claiming they did not intend to evaluate as they did, will not serve as the sole basis for altering or withdrawing an evaluation report. The burden of proof to justify that a report -- once accepted for inclusion in the OMPF -- is unjust, unfair or administratively incorrect lies with the appellant.

ABCMR

A soldier may also request relief through the third, and last, form of possible redress, the ABCMR, in accordance with AR 15-185.

Preparing an Appeal

Soldiers should start by reviewing the governing Army regulation(s) in effect at the time the challenged report was prepared. Using a copy of the report, note any instances where the rating officials did not follow the provisions of the regulation. While minor inconsistencies or irregularities are noteworthy in any appeal packet, they normally do not constitute the basis for removal of a report. They do, however, add to the overall consideration of the merits of an appeal. Serious irregularities, such as improper rating officials, may warrant full or partial relief, in and of themselves. Complete removal of an evaluation is merely one form of relief. As explained later in this article under "processing and disposition," an appellant may request complete removal or specific corrections or changes to his or her report.

Make a list of individuals who served in positions that could possibly challenge or refute the alleged shortcomings or errors on the challenged report. Also, make a list of all hard copy reports or documents that may support the specific contentions. Some examples of these types of supporting documents/reports are published rating schemes, written counseling statements, command inspection program results, and results of any commander's inquiry. Contact previous units to request copies of these documents. Army Regulation 25-400-2 dictates a specific retention period for documents; the longer a soldier waits to request these documents, the greater the possibility they may not be available.

Worldwide locator information is available by contacting the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) at DSN: 221-3732 or COML: (703) 325-3732. This system will provide an address for requesting the current unit of an active duty soldier. For those known to have left active duty, forward correspondence requesting support to the National Personnel Records Center, ATTN: Army Reference Branch, (NCPMA), 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5260. The individual's full name, rank, and SSN must be provided with the correspondence. When requesting an address or assistance, always indicate that the request is for official use in support of an evaluation report appeal.

While awaiting the addresses and requested documents, prepare letters to solicit support for the appeal. Examples for both the letter of request and the individual's memorandum of support are located in Figures F-5 and F-6. Also, begin preparation of the basic letter/memorandum of appeal.

Direct the focus of the appeal on the period of the contested report. Previous evaluations and awards give limited support at best. Once the appeal packet is complete, review its contents using the summary checklist in Paragraph 4-10 before submitting it to EREC.

Processing and Disposition of Appeals

The Appeals and Corrections Branch of the respective Active, Reserve, or National Guard component will review the case on receipt and notify the soldier by letter that the appeal has either been accepted or is being returned due to lack of evidence or regulatory compliance. The appropriate Appeals and Corrections Branch will resolve administrative appeals. Appeals of a substantive nature will be forwarded for adjudication by the Appeals and Corrections Branch to the Office of the Deputy of Chief of Staff for Personnel Enlisted Special Review Board (ESRB). The Appeals and Corrections Branch will notify the soldier of the outcome on final determination of the case.

In any event, whether the appeal is approved or denied, either totally or in part, documentation is placed in the OMPF. The performance portion of the OMPF is updated to include either (1) a memorandum for record that documents the amendment or explains non-rated time or (2) the HQDA letter which notifies the appellant that his appeal has been denied. When the appeal is denied, either totally or in part, a complete copy of the appeal correspondence is placed in the restricted data.

SAMPLE BULLETS EXTRACTED OUT OF PREVIOUS NCO-ER UPDATES WHICH JUSTIFIED RATINGS MARKED

This enclosure provides a sample of Excellence, Success, and Needs Improvement NCO-ER Bullets highlighted in recent Quarterly NCO-ER Updates as being those bullets that justified the marked rating. This should help a rater in distinguishing between a 'success', 'excellence' or 'needs improvement' bullet. Note that excellence bullets should be clearly articulated as something above the ordinary, something quantifiable. Excellence bullets should be demonstrated by specific examples and measurable results, as are the sample ones in this enclosure. The last part of the enclosure contains example senior rater bullets that selection boards like to see. Senior rater bullets need to be clear, concise and reflect potential for promotion, higher level schooling and positions of responsibility.

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS BULLETS

- selected to compete at DA level in the Phillip A. Connelly competition
- 100% accountability of all property during change of command inventories
- completed over 60 hours of military correspondence courses during rating period
- Sergeant's Time briefing book selected as standard for the battalion
- totally committed to quality of awards, NCO-ERs and OERs, 100% timeliness and processing rate utilizing his system and expertise
- provides students the latest in course material by devoting countless after-duty hours revising lesson plans
- motivated three soldiers to compete in Division NCO of the Year competition
- demonstrated competence resulted in her selection as NCOIC, Preventive Dentistry Course, over five more senior NCOs
- his competence enabled him to rank 3d of 20 recruiters in mission accomplishment
- competed in brigade level NCO of the Quarter Board in which he placed second of seven NCOs
- improved supply reconciliation of overdue documents by 66% with expert knowledge of ammunition procedures
- developed and supervised a company Force Protection Plan for an OCONUS deployment resulting in zero incidents or compromise
- commended by Kenyan Minister of Defense for his outstanding medical instruction to over 150 Kenyan soldiers
- planned and executed an immunization program for a reserve battalion allowing over 200

EXAMPLES OF EXCELLENCE BULLETS

- achieved three honor platoon awards during rating period
- developed a rigorous PT program which resulted in improvement of section APFT scores from an average of 224 to an average of 246
- achieved an outstanding rating on 3 out of 4 command inspections, best in the battalion
- improved the processing rate of pay actions from 65% to 94% in less than 3 months
- in the absence of an officer, commanded the detachment on two separate missions at JRTC
- coordinated and executed ahead of schedule the set up of a local area network for 240 computers during the battalion move
- selected by the JTF Commander to serve as the J3 to train an ARNG staff on all aspects of TOC Operations
- commended by numerous officers for his exceptional training of the national military academy of the former Soviet Republic of Moldova
- awarded the FORSCOM's MG Aubrey "Red" Newman Award for leadership excellence
- maintained strict accountability of more than \$30,000 in donated humanitarian relief medical supplies for the Kosovo area
- first-choice reporter on prestigious MacArthur Awards ceremony in Pentagon lauded by Chief of Public Affairs for 117 releases to media
- selected as a finalist for the White-House Military Office Senior NCO of the Year
- processed over 200 evaluations for all four military services; error-free and achieved an exceptional 98 percent on-time rate
- nominated for the Agency's "Technician of the Year"
- coordinated the movement of 184,000 pounds of equipment worth over \$2.5 million maintaining 100% accountability
- maintained 100% accuracy for 7 Major Subordinate Command ammunition accounts valued at over \$28 million
- led by example by mentoring two soldiers toward successful achievement of their gold recruiter rings
- team APFT average of 294
- accounted for Property Book valued at over \$20 million
- displayed technical mastery of his instrument as solo bugler during wreath laying ceremony for the Defense Minister of Greece
- demonstrated excellent work habits and attention to detail that contributed to a 26% rise in EIB success
- directly responsible for 7 soldiers being awarded the EFMB
- biked across Georgia; 468 miles in 6 days

EXAMPLES OF NEEDS IMPROVEMENT BULLETS

- failed to meet APFT standards for the two mile run and sit-ups with a total score of 148
- lack of supervision over subordinates and failure to follow procedures resulted in the loss of \$2,000 worth of equipment
- demonstrated little concern for the security and accountability of sensitive items during cyclic field exercises
- improper purchase from subordinate adversely affected morale and discipline within the section
- consistently failed to meet administrative suspenses
- counseled by the Battalion CSM for having the most disorganized platoon in the company
- failed to develop subordinates; did not perform mandatory performance counseling for the NCO-ER
- many times has failed to inspect soldiers and their equipment
- perception of improper conduct adversely affected morale and discipline within the Division
- unexcused absence from duty left platoon enlisted soldiers unsupervised
- failed to comply with instructions of superiors on several occasions
- encouraged soldiers to grow by cheating for each other
- integrity compromised upon submission of false documents
- constantly complained about time spent in the field

STRONG SENIOR RATER PERFORMANCE AND POTENTIAL BULLETS

- promote to SFC immediately
- an exceptionally talented and gifted NCO who consistently produced superb results a must select for promotion
- in top 5 percent of all SSGs I have worked with in my past 11 years of service
- models, mentors, and motivates soldiers to emulate Army values
- selected over other senior NCOs to manage the administrative section of the largest directorate in the Agency
- unlimited potential; one of tomorrow's leaders; promote now
- absolutely outstanding NCO whose performance and abilities clearly outdistance that of his peers
- capitalize on his leadership abilities and select for Drill Sergeant School
- clearly capable of serving with distinction in the most demanding and critical assignments
- promote immediately, place in leadership positions

HEIGHT, WEIGHT, APFT AND PROFILE INFORMATION

The following information is provided to assist you in the preparation of personnel evaluations and related administrative data.

<u>APFT</u>: Per AR 350-41, para 9-8b(1), active duty Army soldier will take the APFT at least twice each year. A minimum of 4 months are required between record tests. Accordingly, if a soldier does not take a test within 8 months after the previous APFT, he/she will be in the 9th month - with 4 months minimum until the next record test, a soldier will not meet the 2 per 12-month standard of the regulation (9+4=13). Medical profiles are an obvious exception (see below).

- * On the evaluation, the entry for the APFT will reflect the ratee's status on the date of the most recent APFT administered by the Unit within the 12 month period prior to the last rated day of supervision (thru month). If a NCO has taken two tests within a year, can they choose which APFT score to use? <u>NO</u>!! The entry reflects the NCOs status on the date of the Unit's <u>most recent</u> APFT (Remember, the commander can direct an APFT be given to one person; the score can be used as long as the APFT is taken within the rated period). If an NCO has a permanent profile and is authorized to take the alternate event test, then the entry must reflect that the NCO completed the APFT. The entry will read "PASS YYMM" or "FAIL YYMM" or "PROFILE YYMO".
 - <u>Comments are mandatory for an entry of "FAIL</u>". Rating of "*Needs Improvement*" must reflect actual APFT Score. Example bullet:
 - o Failed to meet APFT standards for the two mile run and sit-ups with a total score of 149
 - <u>Comments on "PROFILE" are mandatory</u>. If an NCO has a profile which prevents taking the APFT, a bullet comment is required on how the profile affects his/her ability to perform normal duties, *not* his/her ability to take the APFT.
 - If <u>no APFT within the last 12 months</u> and no profile, the entry is left blank and the rater must explain why.
 - For a pregnant soldier, if an APFT was completed prior to pregnancy and within the last 12 months, those results will be entered. If not taken due to pregnancy within the last 12 months, the entry will be left blank and the following comment entered: "Exempt from APFT requirements IAW AR 40-501"

<u>HT/WT</u>. IAW AR 600-9, Section III, para 20, at a minimum, all soldiers will be weighed-in when they take the APFT or at least every six months.

- * On the evaluation, enter the rated NCO's height and weight (inches and pounds) respectively as of the unit's last weigh-in. If there is no weight-in during the period covered by the report, the rater will enter the NCO's height and weight as of the "THRU" data of the NCO-ER. An entry of "YES" or "NO" will be placed in the space next to the weight to indicated compliance or noncompliance with AR 600-9. Sample entries "72/180 YES" or "68/205 NO".
 - The requirement to enter the bullet "Within body fat standards of AR 600-9" for NCOs who exceed the weight for height screening table, but are within the body fat standards for his/her age group, was **deleted** by MILPER Message 98-044. That statement will **not** be used.
 - Rater will comment on a "NO" entry, indicating noncompliance with the standards of AR 600-9 in Part IVc. Comments will indicate the reason for noncompliance. Medical conditions may be cited for noncompliance, however the "NO" entry is still required because medical waivers to weight control standards are not permitted for evaluation report purposes. The progress or lack of progress in weight control programs will be indicated.
 - For pregnant soldiers, the entry will be left blank and the following statement placed as a comment: "Exempt from weight control standards of AR 600-9"
- * Soldiers not in compliance with the Ht/Wt screening tables and body fat standards of AR 600-9 will be flagged and placed in a weight control program. Personnel are required to weigh-in at least monthly to track progress. Failure to maintain progress will result in elimination actions.